

# Catoctin Mountain

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Catoctin Mountain Park



## Horse Trail



Approximately 6 miles of trail are maintained in the park for public horseback riding. The trail is open for day use only, from April 15 through December 1. It is closed in the winter for visitor safety and to help preserve the trail surface.

This trail challenges the abilities of all riders, novice to competitive trail rider. Riders are surrounded by the beauty of the eastern hardwood forest and will experience creek crossings, rugged mountain terrain, and glimpses of wildlife while on the trail.

### Accessing and Using the Horse Trail

Access to the trail starts at the horse trailer parking area directly across from the entrance to Camp Greentop. (See map and directions on reverse.) The parking area will hold up to 5 truck and trailer units parked around the outside of the circle. The trail is marked at several points with wood posts bearing a horseshoe brand. The 36" wide trail has a surface tread ranging from soft soil to coarse stone.

It is strongly recommended that all horses be shod prior to riding the trail. To ensure the health and safety of all horses using the trail, we recommend that all visiting riders have a copy of their animal's current negative Coggins test with them when entering the park.

Organized groups interested in using the public horse trail for group events need to obtain a special event permit.

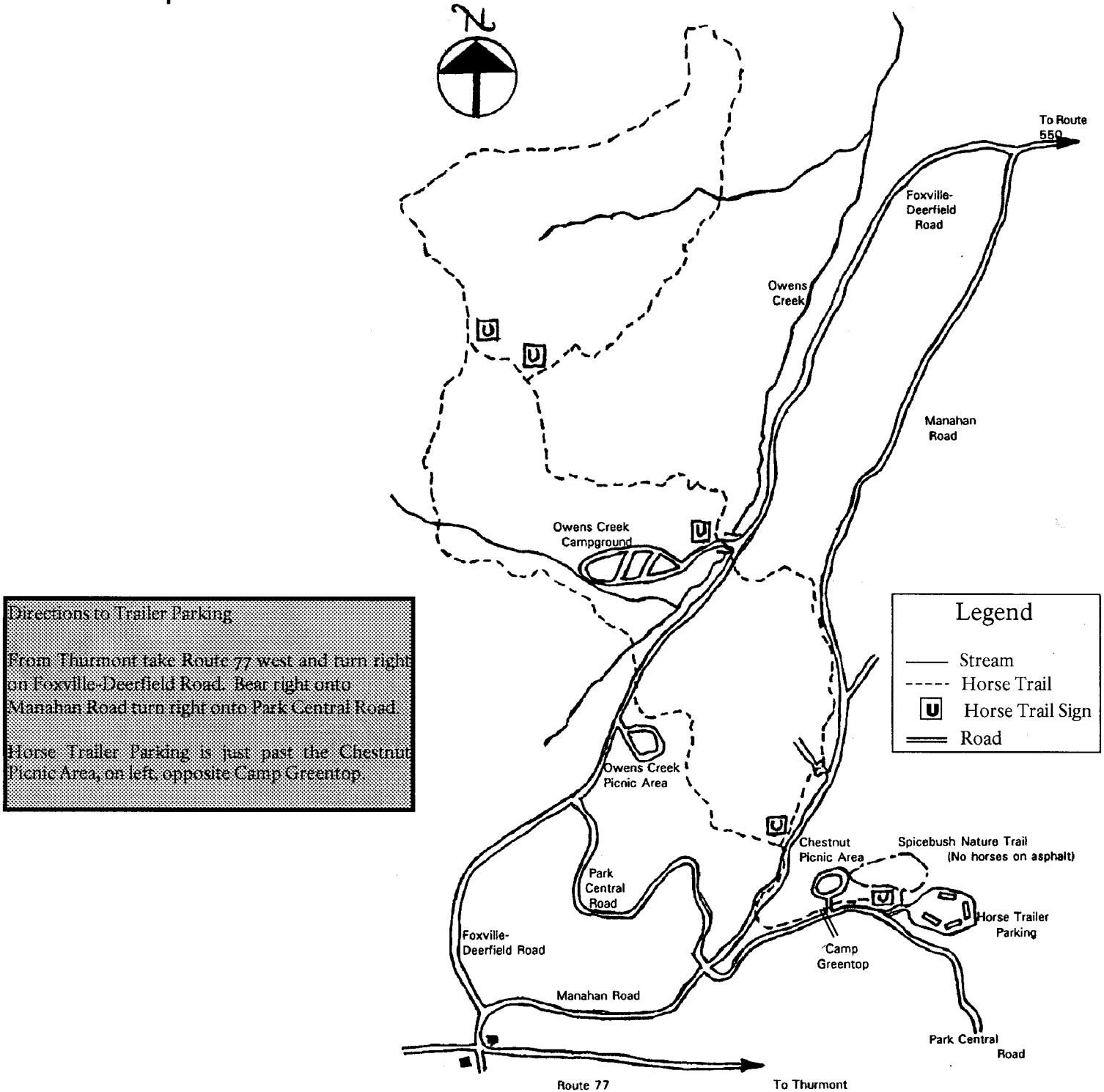
#### Group Permit Requests:

Park Superintendent  
Catoctin Mountain Park  
6602 Foxville Road  
Thurmont, MD 21788

### Trail Regulations

1. Horse trail open daylight hours from April 15 through December 1.
2. Public riding is not permitted on any trails in the park other than the designated public horse trail. Cross country travel, the cutting of switchbacks, and use of other public areas is prohibited.
3. Riding horses on park roads is prohibited, except where necessary to cross directly to or from the designated horse trail.
4. Stock must not be tied to trees except in an emergency. Grazing in the park is prohibited.
5. The trail is to be enjoyed at a walk or trot. Galloping is not permitted.
6. Proceed in a slow walk when passing in the immediate vicinity of persons on foot. Portions of the horse trail are joined by the Catoctin Trail and, near Owens Creek Campground, by the Deerfield Nature Trail. These are both hiking trails. Please be willing to yield the right-of-way to hikers.
7. Organized groups need to apply to the park for a special event permit. No more than 15 horses may be together on the trail in one group.
8. Halter and lead rope must be carried, or be on the horse, at all times.
9. The collection of plants, rocks, wildlife, etc., is prohibited. All trash must be packed out of the park. Please help us to preserve and protect park resources.

## Horse Trail Map



### Volunteer Opportunities

Catoclin Mountain Park offers several opportunities for visitors to volunteer their time and energy to help keep Catoclin a very special place. Volunteers help maintain park trails, participate in the park's Handicapped Riding program, and help us to preserve and protect the park through a variety of volunteer work projects.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer in the park, please contact the Volunteer Coordinator at the Visitor Center or call (301) 663-9388.